Evaluation of medical ethics application in Hail, KSA

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Abstract— Throughout history, men have repeatedly made judgments regarding their own conduct and that of their fellow men. Some acts have been judged to be right or good, while other acts have been denounced as wrong or evil. Ethical judgment in medicine, as inother areas of life, is an attempt to distinguish between good and bad conduct. Research ethics guidelines are essential for conducting medical research. Recently, numerous attempts have been made to establish national clinical research documents in the countries of the Middle East. This article analyzes these documents.

The aim of the study is to evaluate the application of medical ethics in medical field in Hail, KSA

Index Terms— Medical ethics application, Saudi Arabia, Hail

INTRODUCTION

In the past three decades, medical ethics has emerged as a priority within medical

education institutions and among ethics educators (1).1 Ethics is an understanding of the nature of conflicts arising from moral imperatives and how best we may deal with them. Specifically it deals with conflicts in potential outcome (consequences of actions) or with duties and obligations(1,2). Ethics does not decide what is morally right or wrong; rather it considers how we should act best in the light of our duties and obligations as moral agents. Clinicians have specific duties of care to their patients and to society.

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It is generally held that clinicians should always act in the best interest of their patients; but sometimes there is a conflict between obligations to a patient and those perceived to be owed to the community or to other patients. It may not always be the case that what the clinician believes is in the best interest of the patient is what the patient wishes or will consent to. Central to modern medical ethics is a respect for patient autonomy and the fundamental principle of informed consent (2). Medical Ethics is a practical subject as well as a branch of moral philosophy. Ethics is an integral part of good medical practice.

It is an essential branch of medicine. Ethics deals with the choices we make and our actions in relation to those choices. It deals with choices made by both clinicians and patients and the duties and obligations of clinicians to their patients. Medical ethics also deals with the choices made by society, the distribution of resources and access to health care and the dilemmas arising from them (3). Patients have duties and obligations too, which is why we should respect them as moral agents. Parents have duties of care to their children; and sometimes a clinician's duty to a child patient may conflict with those of the parents, and this needs an ethical approach to resolve (1,2).

METHODS

The program of SPSS (Cohort method) was used for statistical analysis of the results (4)

MATERIAL

Questionnaire was designed and distributed on student in collage of medicine 4th year and physicians in general and private hospitals in Hail , to become 3 groups:. Group1 - students (4th and 6th years) "45" Group 2- physicians in government hospitals (KKH and Hail hospital) "26" Group3-physicians in private hospitals (Salamat - Alsafa - Alkhaleej - Alrayan) "39"

RESULTS

1.Group I: of medical students in Hail University (total 45)

| Table I: | Results | of ques | tionnaire | of med | ical stu- |
|----------|---------|---------|-----------|--------|-----------|
| dents | in | Hail | Unive | ersity | (total |
| 45) | | | | 5 | , |

| Evaluation Questions | Yes | perc e nt | N o | perc e nt | To so me ex- ten t | perce nt |
|-------------------------|-----|-----------------|--------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| 1-Did you | 45 | 100% | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% |

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| study medical Ethics before? | | | | | | | lution of the concept of | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|--------|----|-------|----|-------|-----------------------------------|----|----------------|----|-----------------|----|-------|
| 2-Do you think | 44 | 97.8% | 1 | 2.2% | 0 | 0% | patients' rights | | | | | | |
| that the health | | | | | | | ? | | E1 1 0/ | 24 | 16 70/ | 4 | 2.20/ |
| practitioner must comply | | | | | | | 10-Can the study of ethics | 23 | 51.1% | 21 | 46.7% | 1 | 2.2% |
| with the ethics | | | | | | | be contributed | | | | | | |
| of his | | | | | | | to | | | | | | |
| profession? | | | | | | | manage the | | | | | | |
| 3-Do you think | 45 | 100% | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% | ethical prob- | | | | | | |
| that ethics of the health | | | | | | | lems faced by the | | | | | | |
| practitioner | | | | | | | doctor at the | | | | | | |
| has positive | | | | | | | practice of | | | | | | |
| effect on his | | | | | | | medicine ? | | | | | - | |
| patients? 4-Do you think | 44 | 97.8% | 1 | 2.2% | 0 | 0% | 11-Did the study of differ- | 33 | 73.3% | 12 | 26.7% | 0 | 0% |
| that dealing | 44 | 97.8% | T | 2,2% | 0 | 0% | ent ethics rules | | | | | | |
| with col- | | | | | | | increase your | | | | | | |
| leagues | | | | | | | knowledge to | | | | | | |
| ethically has | | | | | | | make a deci- | | | | | | |
| positive effect | | | | | | | sion ethically? | | | | | | |
| 5-Have you | 2 | 4.4% | 3 | 6.7% | 40 | 88.9% | 12-Have you | 42 | 93.3% | 2 | 4.4% | 1 | 2.2% |
| ever found a | | | | | | | explained the | | | | | | |
| health practi- | | | | | | | importance of | | | | | | |
| tioner that behaves | | | | | | | the study of ethics | | | | | | |
| unethically?! | | | | | | | commitment | | | | | | |
| 6-Do you think | 33 | 73.3% | 12 | 26.7% | 0 | 0% | to the interests | | | | | | |
| that it is neces- | | | | | | | of the patient's | | | | | | |
| sary for a | | | | | | | doctor without any racial or | | | | | | |
| physician to have intensive | | | | | | | religious dis- | | | | | | |
| courses of the | | | | | | | crimination ? | | | | | | |
| ethics from | | | | | | | 13-ls there | 2 | 4.4% | 6 | 13.3% | 37 | 82.2% |
| time to time?! | 4.4 | 07.00/ | 4 | 2.20/ | 0 | 0.0% | problem or a condition that | | | | | | |
| 7-Do you sup- port the im- | 44 | 97.8% | 1 | 2.2% | 0 | 0% | forces | | | | | | |
| portance of | | | | | | | you to behave | | | | | | |
| teaching | | | | | | | unethically? | | | | | | |
| medical ethics | | | | | | | 14-Does the | 41 | 91.1% | 4 | 8.95% | 0 | 0% |
| in the medical training?! | | | | | | | study of medi- cal ethics help | | | | | | |
| 8-In your opi- | 45 | 100% | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% | you | | | | | | |
| nion, does the | | | | | | | to know your | | | | | | |
| (secret of the | | | | | | | duties as a doctor? | | | | | | |
| core values) relationship | | | | | | | 15-Does the | 43 | 95.6% | 2 | 4.4% | 0 | 0% |
| between doc- | | | | | | | study of medi- | | 20.070 | - | I , I /U | Ũ | 0,0 |
| tor | | | | | | | cal ethics help | | | | | | |
| and his patient | | | | | | | you | | | | | | |
| depend mainly on | | | | | | | to know the patient's rights | | | | | | |
| confidentiality? | | | | | | | ? | | | | | | |
| 9-Are you in- | 23 | 51.1% | 18 | 40% | 4 | 8.9% | 16-Can medical | 7 | 15.6% | 22 | 48.9% | 16 | 35.6% |
| fluenced by | | | | | | | ethics be sub- | | | | | | |
| the Medical Ethics in | | | | | | | jected to changes? | | | | | | |
| the recent evo- | | | | | | | 17-Is Medical | 23 | 51.1% | 13 | 28.9% | 9 | 20% |
| | 1 | I | I | I | I | l | | | ÷ 1,1 /0 | 10 | _0,770 | - | _0/0 |

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|------------------------------------|------------|--------|----|-------|----|-------|---|---|
| Ethics rules varies accord- | | | | | | | Table I showed that 100% of medical students in faculty of medicine, Hail | |
| ing to countries ? | | | | | | | University had studied ethics, thought that ethics of the health practitioner has | |
| 18-Do the rules of Medical Eth- | 29 | 64.4% | 12 | 26.7% | 4 | 8.9% | positive effect on his patients, that relationship between doctor and his patient | |
| ics | | | | | | | depends mainly on confidentiality and never received any | |
| contributed to the develop- | | | | | | | offer from pharmaceutical companies before(questions 1, 3, 8 and 24). | |
| ment of your interaction | | | | | | | Also a high percentages (more than 90%) agreed that health practitioner | |
| with emergen- | | | | | | | must comply with the | |
| cy situations in the | | | | | | | ethics of his profession, dealing with colleagues ethically has a positive effect, | |
| absence of another doctor | | | | | | | support the importance of teaching medical ethics in the med- ical training, | |
| ? | | 01.10/ | | 0.001 | | | explained the importance of the study of ethics commitment to | |
| 19-Do you think it is ne- | 41 | 91.1% | 4 | 8.9% | 0 | 0% | the interests of the patient's doctor without any racial or religious discrimination, | |
| cessary to take the | | | | | | | the study of medical ethics help them to know their duties as doctors, help them to | |
| patient's con- sent before any | | | | | | | know the patient's rights and the necessity to take the patient's consent before | |
| action ? | | | | | | | any action (questions | |
| 20-ls there a specialized de- | 13 | 28.9% | 15 | 33.3% | 17 | 37.8% | 2, 4, 7, 12,14, 15 and 19). On the other hand, the least agreements (less than 10%) were | |
| partment set the | | | | | | | about finding any health practitioner that behaved unethically, exposure to any | |
| ethical rules in | | | | | | | problem or a condition that forced them to behave unethically and facing | |
| your hospital? 21-Do the new | 24 | 53.3% | 14 | 31.1% | 7 | 15.6% | any difficulties in | |
| technology and recent | | | | | | | maintaining medical ethical values * questions 5, 13 and 22). The other questions showed different percentage variation in | |
| medical prob- lems emerged | | | | | | | students' answers. The mean of total agreements was 80.13%. | |
| a new ethical | | | | | | | 2. Group II: physicians in Governmental Hospitals | |
| issues ? 22-Do you | 4 | 8.9% | 7 | 15.6% | 34 | 75.6% | Table II: Results of questionnaire of physicians in | |
| have difficul- ties in main- | | | | | | | Gøvernmental Hospitals (Tptal 26) | |
| taining medical ethical | | | | | | | QuestionsYesPer-NoPer-TPercentofevalua-centcento | t |
| values? | | | | | | | tion s | |
| 23-Did Medical Ethics help you | 37 | 82.2% | 8 | 17.8% | 0 | 0% | 0 m | |
| to know your duties towards | | | | | | | e | |
| your communi- | | | | | | | xt e | |
| ty? 24-Have you | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% | 45 | 100% | n | |
| ever received an offer from a | | | | | | | 1- Did you 24 92.3 0 0% 2 7.7% | |
| pharmaceutical company to | | | | | | | study med- ical Ethics | |
| market one of | | | | | | | before? | |
| its products ? | | | | | | | think that % | |
| Mean of total agreement | 80.13 % | | | | | | the health practitioner | |
| | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | must | |

| | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 1:1:1-1 | | | | | | | |
|--|----|------|---|--------|---|--------|---|--|----|------|----|------|---|-------|
| comply | | | | | | | tiality? | | | 10 - | 10 | | | |
| with the | | | | | | | 9- Are | you | 11 | 42.3 | 12 | 46.2 | 3 | 11.5% |
| ethics of his | | | | | | | influence | ed | | % | | % | | |
| profession? | | | | | | | by the M | led- | | | | | | |
| 3- Do you | 26 | 100 | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% | ical Et | hics | | | | | | |
| think that | 20 | % | Ŭ | 0 /0 | 0 | 070 | in | the | | | | | | |
| | | /0 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ethics of the | | | | | | | recent e | | | | | | | |
| health prac- | | | | | | | lution of | the | | | | | | |
| titioner | | | | | | | concept | of | | | | | | |
| has positive | | | | | | | patients' | | | | | | | |
| effect on his | | | | | | | rights | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | 10 Can | the | 15 | 57.7 | 8 | 30.8 | 3 | 11.5% |
| patients? | 05 | 06.0 | 0 | 00/ | 0 | 00/ | 10- Can | | 15 | | 0 | | 3 | 11.5% |
| 4- Do you | 25 | 96.2 | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% | study | of | | % | | % | | |
| think that | | % | | | | | ethics | be | | | | | | |
| dealing | | | | | | | contribu | ted | | | | | | |
| with col- | | | | | | | to | | | | | | | |
| leagues eth- | | | | | | | manage | tho | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | manage | uie | | | | | | |
| ically | | | | | | | ethical | | | | | | | |
| has positive | | | | | | | problem | | | | | | | |
| effect ? | | | | | | | faced by | the | | | | | | |
| 5- Have you | 14 | 53.8 | 1 | 3.8% | 1 | 42.3% | doctor | at | | | | | | |
| ever found | | % | - | 0.070 | 1 | 12.070 | the prac | | | | | | | |
| | | /0 | | | 1 | | of media | .iiie | | | | | | |
| a health | | | | | | | | cine | | | | | | |
| practitioner | | | | | | | ? | - | | | _ | | _ | |
| that | | | | | | | 11- Did | | 17 | 65.4 | 7 | 26.9 | 2 | 7.7% |
| behaves | | | | | | | study | of | | % | | % | | |
| unethical- | | | | | | | different | | | | | | | |
| ly?! | | | | | | | ethics ru | | | | | | | |
| | 22 | 04.6 | 2 | 11 - | 1 | 2.00/ | | | | | | | | |
| 6- Do you | 22 | 84.6 | 3 | 11.5 | 1 | 3.8% | increase | | | | | | | |
| think that it | | % | | % | | | your kno | | | | | | | |
| is necessary | | | | | | | ledge | to | | | | | | |
| for a physi- | | | | | | | make a | de- | | | | | | |
| cian to | | | | | | | cision e | | | | | | | |
| have inten- | | | | | | | cally? | , un | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | r | 20 | 7(0 | (| 00.1 | 0 | 0.0/ |
| sive courses | | | | | | | | [ave | 20 | 76.9 | 6 | 23.1 | 0 | 0% |
| of the ethics | | | | | | | you | ex- | | % | | % | | |
| from time | | | | | | | plained | the | | | | | | |
| to | | | | | | | importar | | | | | | | |
| time?! | | | | | | | of the st | udv | | | | | | |
| 7- Do you | 24 | 92.3 | 1 | 3.8% | 1 | 3.8% | of the of | hics | | | | | | |
| 7- Do you | 24 | | 1 | 3.0 /0 | 1 | 3.0 /0 | | mes | | | | | | |
| support the | | % | | | | | commit- | .1 | | | | | | |
| importance | | | | | | | ment to | | | | | | | |
| of teaching | | | | | | | interests | of | | | | | | |
| medical | | | | | | | the patie | | | | | | | |
| ethics in the | | | | | | | doctor | | | | | | | |
| medical | | | | | | | without | 2017 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | 5 | | | | | | |
| training?! | | | | | | | racial | or | | | | | | |
| 8- In your | 25 | 96.2 | 1 | 3.8% | 0 | 0% | religious | 5 | | | | | | |
| opinion, | | % | | | | | discrimi | na- | | | | | | |
| does the | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | tion | ? | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 1 | | In your | - | | | 1 | | | |
| (secret of | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (secret of | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| the core | | | | | | | lation v | vith | | | | | | |
| the core values) re- | | | | | | | lation v your | vith pa- | | | | | | |
| the core values) re- lationship | | | | | | | lation v your tients, | vith | | | | | | |
| the core values) re- | | | | | | | lation v your tients, you | vith pa- do | | | | | | |
| the core values) re- lationship between | | | | | | | lation v your tients, you | vith pa- do | | | | | | |
| the core values) re- lationship between doctor and | | | | | | | lation v your tients, you discrimi- | vith pa- do | | | | | | |
| the core values) re- lationship between doctor and his patient | | | | | | | lation v your tients, you discrimi- nate | vith pa- do - be- | | | | | | |
| the core values) re- lationship between doctor and his patient depend | | | | | | | lation v your tients, you discrimi- nate tween th | vith pa- do - be- nem | | | | | | |
| the core values) re- lationship between doctor and his patient depend mainly on | | | | | | | lation v your tients, you discrimi- nate tween th racially | vith pa- do - be- nem or | | | | | | |
| the core values) re- lationship between doctor and his patient depend | | | | | | | lation v your tients, you discrimi- nate tween th | vith pa- do - be- nem or | | | | | | |

| | | 0.0/ | | | | (= 10/ | <u> </u> | | 0/ | | 0/ | - | |
|---|----|-----------|----|-----------|---|---|---|---|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| 13- Is there | 0 | 0% | 9 | 34.6 | 1 | 65.4% | a specia- | | % | | % | | |
| a problem | | | | % | 7 | | lized de- | | | | | | |
| or a condi- | | | | | | | partment | | | | | | |
| tion that | | | | | | | set the ethi- | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| forces | | | | | | | cal | | | | | | |
| you to be- | | | | | | | rules in | | | | | | |
| have uneth- | | | | | | | your hos- | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ically? | | | | | | | pital? | _ | | | | | |
| 14- Does | 19 | 73.1 | 7 | 26.9 | 0 | 0% | 21- Do the | 15 | 57.7 | 7 | 26.9 | 4 | 15.4% |
| the study of | | % | | % | | | new tech- | | % | | % | | |
| medical | | /0 | | /0 | | | | | 70 | | /0 | | |
| | | | | | | | nology and | | | | | | |
| ethics help | | | | | | | recent med- | | | | | | |
| you to | | | | | | | ical | | | | | | |
| know your | | | | | | | problems | | | | | | |
| duties as a | | | | | | | have | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| doctor? | | | | | | | emerged a | | | | | | |
| 15- Does | 21 | 80.8 | 4 | 15.4 | 1 | 3.8% | new ethical | | | | | | |
| the study of | | % | | % | | | issues? | | | | | | |
| | | /0 | | /0 | | | 105uc5. | 4 | 15.4 | 9 | 246 | 1 | 50% |
| medical | | | | | | | 22- Do you | 4 | | 9 | 34.6 | 1 | 50 % |
| ethics help | | | | | | | have diffi- | | % | | % | 3 | |
| you to | | | | | | | culties in | | | | | | |
| know the | | | | | | | maintaining | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| patient's | | | | | | | medical | | | | | | |
| rights ? | | | | | | | ethical val- | | | | | | |
| 16- Can | 8 | 30.8 | 11 | 42.3 | 7 | 26.9% | ues? | | | | | | |
| medical | C | % | | % | - | _0.,,0 | 23- Did | 20 | 76.9 | 5 | 19.2 | 1 | 3.8% |
| | | /0 | | /0 | | | | 20 | | 5 | | T | 5.0 /0 |
| ethics be | | | | | | | Medical | | % | | % | | |
| subjected to | | | | | | | Ethics help | | | | | | |
| changes? | | | | | | | you to | | | | | | |
| 17- Is Medi- | 16 | 61.5 | 6 | 23.1 | 4 | 15.4% | know your | | | | | | |
| | 10 | | 0 | | 4 | 15.4 /0 | | | | | | | |
| cal Ethics | | % | | % | | | duties | | | | | | |
| rules varies | | | | | | | towards | | | | | | |
| according | | | | | | | your com- | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | munity? | | | | | | |
| to | | | | | | | | - | | 0 | 0.0/ | - | 50 1 0/ |
| countries ? | | | | | | | 24- Have | 7 | 26.9 | 0 | 0% | 1 | 73.1% |
| 18- Do the | 19 | 73.1 | 5 | 19.2 | 2 | 7.7% | you ever | | % | | | 9 | |
| rules of | - | 5% | - | % | | | received an | | | | | | |
| | | 570 | | 70 | | | | | | | | | |
| Medical | | | | | | | offer from a | | | | | | |
| Ethics con- | | | | | | | pharma- | | | | | | |
| tributed to | | | | | | | ceutical | | | | | | |
| the | | | | | | | company to | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | company to | | | | | | |
| develop- | | | | | | | market one | | | | | | |
| ment of | | | | | | | of its | | | | | | |
| your inte- | | | | | | | products? | | | | | | |
| raction with | | | | | | | Mean of | 84.44 | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| emergency | | | | | | | total | % | | | | | |
| situations | | | | | | | agreement | | | | | | |
| in the ab- | | | | | | | | | • | | | | • |
| sence of | | | | | | | Table II shows | d the area | wore of a | 0110 | montal h | 0000:1 | ale' phy |
| | | | | | | | Table II showe | | wers or g | | | ospit | |
| another | | 1 | | | | | sicians | to | | the | | | present |
| doctor ? | | | | | L | | study question | nnaire. It | showed | that 9 | 2.3%of | govei | rnmental |
| | | | | | 1 | 3.8% | hospitals' | | | | | | nysicians |
| | 20 | 76.9 | 5 | 19.2 | | ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,, | | | | | | | |
| 19- Do you | 20 | 76.9 % | 5 | 19.2 % | 1 | 5.070 | had and a - | hice 1000/ | of the | than | the that | | |
| 19- Do you think it is | 20 | 76.9 % | 5 | 19.2 % | 1 | 5.0 /0 | had studied et | | of then | | | | h practi- |
| 19- Do you think it is necessary to | 20 | | 5 | | 1 | 3.070 | tioner | must | | con | nply | healt | h practi- with |
| 19- Do you think it is necessary to | 20 | | 5 | | 1 | 5.0 % | tioner | must | | con | nply | healt | h practi- with |
| 19- Do you think it is necessary to take the pa- | 20 | | 5 | | 1 | 0.070 | tioner the ethics of hi | must is professio | | con thics (q | nply Juestions | healt | h practi- with d 3). Al- |
| 19- Do you think it is necessary to take the pa- tient's | 20 | | 5 | | 1 | 5.676 | tioner the ethics of hi so, | must is professio more | on and e | con thics (q th | nply Juestions Ian | healt s 2 an | h practi- with d 3). Al- 90% |
| 19- Do you think it is necessary to take the pa- tient's consent be- | 20 | | 5 | | 1 | 3.070 | tioner the ethics of hi so, thought that t | must is professio more hat dealing | on and e | con thics (q th | nply Juestions Ian | healt s 2 an ally 1 | h practi- with d 3). Al- 90% nas posi- |
| 19- Do you think it is necessary to take the pa- tient's consent be- fore any | 20 | | 5 | | 1 | 5.670 | tioner the ethics of hi so, thought that t tive | must is professio more hat dealing | on and e g with c effect, | con thics (q th olleagu | nply juestions an ies ethic | healt s 2 an ally ł sı | h practi- with d 3). Al- 90% nas posi- upported |
| 19- Do you think it is necessary to take the pa- tient's consent be- fore any | 20 | | 5 | | 1 | 5.670 | tioner the ethics of hi so, thought that t tive | must is professio more hat dealing | on and e g with c effect, | con thics (q th olleagu | nply juestions an ies ethic | healt s 2 an ally ł sı | h practi- with d 3). Al- 90% nas posi- upported |
| 19- Do you think it is necessary to take the pa- tient's consent be- | 20 | | 5 | | 5 | 19.2% | tioner the ethics of hi so, thought that t | must is professio more hat dealing e of teachir | on and e g with c effect, | con thics (q th olleagu | nply juestions an ies ethic | healt s 2 an ally 1 su medie | h practi- with d 3). Al- 90% nas posi- upported |

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|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|---------|-----------|-------------|--------------------|------------------------|----|------|----|-----------|----|--------|
| between doct tiality | or and his (| patient of quest | | l mainly | on co 4, | onfiden- 7 | with col- leagues | | | | | | |
| and 8). On th | | nd, the l | | greemen | , | - | ethically | | | | | | |
| their | expos | | 1.1 | to | | any | has posi- | | | | | | |
| problem or a (0%), | condition th | nat force while | | to beha | ve une | ethically 15.4% | tive effect | | | | | | |
| had difficulti | es in mair | - | | al ethica | ıl valı | | 5-Have | 5 | 12.8 | 1 | 2.6 | 33 | 84.6 |
| 26.9% | had | 0 | | eived | | an | you ever | U | % | - | % | 00 | % |
| offer from a | pharmaceu | | | to marl | ket on | | found a | | | | | | |
| products 22 | | (que and | stions | | | 13, 24). | health | | | | | | |
| The other que | estions show | | erent p | ercentao | e vari | | practi- tioner | | | | | | |
| governmental | | | r | | , | | that be- | | | | | | |
| hospitals' doc | ctors' answe | | | he table. | The 1 | mean of | haves un- | | | | | | |
| total 84.44%. | | agreem | ents | | | was | ethically?! | 22 | E00/ | 15 | 29 E | 1 | 2 (0/ |
| 04.44 %. | | | | | | | 6-Do you think that | 23 | 59% | 15 | 38.5 % | 1 | 2.6% |
| 3. Group II | I: Physici | ans in | priva | te hosp | oitals | (Total | it is neces- | | | | 70 | | |
| 39) | | | - | - | | | sary for a | | | | | | |
| Table III: R private hos | esults of | questic | onnair | e of Pl | nysici | ians in | physician | | | | | | |
| private nos | pitais (10 | (ai 39) | | | | | to have intensive | | | | | | |
| Evalua- | Yes | per- | Ν | per- | Τ | per- | courses of | | | | | | |
| tion | | cent | 0 | cent | 0 | cent | the | | | | | | |
| Ques- | | | | | SO | | ethics | | | | | | |
| tions | | | | | m e | | from time to time?! | | | | | | |
| | | | | | ex | | 7-Do you | 31 | 79.5 | 7 | 17.9 | 1 | 2.6% |
| | | | | | te | | support | | % | | % | | |
| 1 Did you | 35 | 89.7 | 0 | 0% | nt 4 | 10.3 | the impor- | | | | | | |
| 1-Did you study | 55 | 89.7 % | 0 | 0 /0 | 4 | 10.5 | tance of teaching | | | | | | |
| medical | | , 0 | | | | 10 | medical | | | | | | |
| Ethics be- | | | | | | | ethics in | | | | | | |
| fore? | 39 | 100 | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% | the medi- | | | | | | |
| 2-Do you think that | 39 | % | 0 | 0 /0 | 0 | 0 /0 | cal train- ing?! | | | | | | |
| the health | | | | | | | In your | 39 | 100 | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% |
| practi- | | | | | | | opinion, | | % | | | | |
| tioner must | | | | | | | does the (secret of | | | | | | |
| comply | | | | | | | the core | | | | | | |
| with the | | | | | | | values) | | | | | | |
| ethics of | | | | | | | relation- | | | | | | |
| his profes- | | | | | | | ship be- tween | | | | | | |
| sion? | | | | | | | doctor | | | | | | |
| 3-Do you | 38 | 97.4 | 1 | 2.6 | 0 | 0% | and his | | | | | | |
| think that | | % | | % | | | patient | | | | | | |
| ethics of the health | | | | | | | depend mainly on | | | | | | |
| practi- | | | | | | | confiden- | | | | | | |
| tioner has | | | | | | | tiality ? | | | | | | |
| positive | | | | | | | 9-Are you | 15 | 38.5 | 16 | 41% | 8 | 20.5 |
| effect on his | | | | | | | influenced by the | | % | | | | % |
| patients? | | | | | | | Medical | | | | | | |
| 4-Do you | 39 | 100 | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% | Ethics in | | | | | | |
| think that | | % | | | | | the recent | | | | | | |
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| tient's do doctor Without any racial or for the devel- religious discrimi- nation? In your rela- tion with your pa- tients, do you dis- criminate between b b b b b b b b b b b b b b b b b b | | | | | | | | | 20 | | - | | - | |
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| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| them ra- doctor? | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | them ra- | | 1 | | | | | doctor? | | | L | | | |

| 19-Do you | 36 | 92.3 | 3 | 7.7 | 0 | 0% | ment |
|--------------------------|--------|-----------|----|------|----|-----------|--|
| think it is | | % | | % | | | Table III should the assume of asiants hereitably above |
| necessary to take the | | | | | | | Table III showed the responses of private hospitals' physicianstothetothe <t< td=""></t<> |
| patient's | | | | | | | study questionnaire. It showed that 89.7% of private hospitals' |
| consent | | | | | | | physicians had |
| before any action? | | | | | | | studied ethics. 100% thought that health practitioner must |
| 20-Is there | 5 | 12.8 | 5 | 12.8 | 29 | 74.4 | comply with the ethics of his profession, dealing with colleagues ethically has posi- |
| a specia- | 0 | % | | % | | % | tive effect and |
| lized de- | | | | | | | relationship between doctor and his patient depend mainly on |
| partment set the | | | | | | | confidentiality (questions 2, 4 and 8). Also , more than 90% thought that eth- |
| ethical | | | | | | | ics of the health |
| rules in | | | | | | | practitioner has positive effect on his patients, that it is neces- |
| your hos- pital? | | | | | | | sary to take the patient's consent before any action (questions 3 and 19). On |
| 21-Do the | 24 | 61.5 | 12 | 30.8 | 3 | 7.7% | the other hand, the |
| new tech- | | % | | % | - | | least agreements were about finding any health practitioner |
| nology | | | | | | | that behaved |
| and recent medical | | | | | | | unethically, exposure to any problem or a condition that forced them to behave |
| problems | | | | | | | unethically, medical ethics could be subjected to changes, |
| emerged a | | | | | | | Medical Ethics rules can |
| new ethi- cal | | | | | | | vary according to countries, the presence of specialized de- partment that set the |
| issues ? | | | | | | | ethical rules in their hospital and facing any difficulties in |
| 22-Do you | 7 | 17.9 | 7 | 17.9 | 25 | 64.1 | maintaining medical |
| have diffi- | | % | | % | | % | ethical values * questions 5, 13, 16, 17, 20 and 22). |
| culties in maintain- | | | | | | | The other questions showed different percentage variation in private hospitals' |
| ing | | | | | | | doctors' answers as seen in the table. The mean of all agree- |
| medical | | | | | | | ments was 77.25% |
| ethical values? | | | | | | | DISCUSSION |
| 23-Did | 23 | 59% | 14 | 35.9 | 2 | 5.1% | The official code of medical ethics (5) explains in a precise manner the duties a doctor owes to a patient. It also specifies |
| Medical | | | | % | | | behaviour between doctors as well as with the other health |
| Ethics | | | | | | | professions. Every practicing doctor must have his name regis- |
| help you to know | | | | | | | tered with the Medical Council. It is obvious that medical eth- |
| your | | | | | | | ics education has become a universal component of undergra- |
| duties to- | | | | | | | duate formal medical training in most countries.(5) |
| wards your | | | | | | | Our survey has shed some light on application of medical eth- |
| communi- | | | | | | | ics education in Hail. In the present study the mean number of respondents of medical students who were "satisfied "or |
| ty? | | | | | | | "moderately satisfied" reached 80.13% in group 1. This is a |
| 24-Have | 28 | 71.8 % | 0 | 0% | 11 | 28.2 % | good sign of education and applying medical ethics in faculty |
| you ever received | | /0 | | | | /0 | of medicine, Hail University, since 100% were studying medi- |
| an offer | | | | | | | cal ethics in the faculty. |
| from a | | | | | | | Nearly the same percentage of application of medical ethics |
| pharma- ceutical | | | | | | | was reported China, Taiwan, the Philippines, Thailand and |
| company | | | | | | | Australia, while in Korea and Malaysia, this ratio |
| to market | | | | | | | was 50 to 60% or lower.(6). Table I showed that 100% of medi- |
| one of its products? | | | | | | | cal students in faculty of medicine, Hail University had stu- died ethics, thought that ethics of the health practitioner has |
| Mean of | 77.25% | | | | | | positive effect on his patients, that relationship between doctor |
| total | , | | | | | | and his patient depends mainly on confidentiality and never |
| agree- | | | | | | | received any offer from pharmaceutical companies be- |

fore(questions 1, 3, 8 and 24). Also a high percentages (more than 90%) agreed that health practitioner must comply with the ethics of his profession, dealing with colleagues ethically has a positive effect, support the importance of teaching medical ethics in the medical training, explained the importance of the study of ethics commitment to the interests of the patient's doctor without any racial or religious discrimination, the study of medical ethics help them to know their duties as doctors, help them to know the patient's rights and the necessity to take the patient's consent before any action (questions 2, 4, 7, 12,14, 15 and 19).

Medical ethics were a part of medicine curriculum in Hail university in the third year. The course on ethics in our medical school is based on Islamic principles. Similarly, it was reported that courses in ethics were taught in the first and third years at the College of Medicine at King Saud University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia(7) They added that Medical students face ethical issues in their careers, as early as the first year of medical school.2 It is therefore imperative that education in bioethics start early.

Although medical students may acquire some of their ethics education passively through osmosis during their clerkships. (7) .Nearly similar results was reported by Lehmann et al. (in 2004)(8) . They sent questionnaires to 125 U.S. medical schools and 16 Canadian medical schools.. The response rate was 87% (123 schools). Seventy-one (78%) of the schools had medical ethics integrated as part of a larger course, such as Introduction to Clinical Medicine. This is an increase from what the prior studies found, where only 60% of the schools taught ethics as part of a larger course.9,10 The authors found that common barriers to medical ethics instruction were: lack of time in the curriculum, lack of qualified teachers.(8)

On the other hand, the least agreements (less than 10%), in group 1,were about finding any health practitioner that behaved unethically, exposure to any problem or a condition that forced them to behave unethically and facing any difficulties in maintaining medical ethical values * questions 5, 13 and 22).

In the present work, the mean of total agreement of application of medical ethics of physicians in governmental hospital in KKH and Hail hospital (group 2), was 84.44%. This result showed a high sign of application of medical ethics in governmental hospitals, since 92.3% of the sample of group 2 studied medical ethics before (table II). 100% of them thought that health practitioner must comply with the ethics of his profession and ethics (questions 2 and 3). Also, more than 90% thought that that dealing with colleagues ethically has positive effect, supported the importance of teaching medical ethics in the medical training and relationship between doctor and his patient depend mainly on confidentiality (questions 4, 7 and 8). On the other hand, the least agreements were about their exposure to any problem or a condition that forced them to behave unethically (0%), while 15.4% had difficulties in maintaining medical ethical values and 26.9% had received an offer from a pharmaceutical company to market one of its products (questions 13, 22 and 24).

SCFHS in KSA has published Code of ethics for healthcare practioners (6). This helped the physicians to practice ethics in the Kingdom. Also, in a study carried out in an area included the three main Saudi cities of Riyadh, Jeddah, and Dammam, as well as other smaller cities (Taif (west) and Tabuk (north)) Out of 110 participants, 90 replied in the study period giving a response rate of 82%. Following the first round, 32 ethical issues were identified, the top three of which were: Patients' rights (55; 61%), confidentiality of patients' information (41; 46%), and medical negligence / error (31; 34%). The least important were: Language barrier, private sections in public hospitals, and nursing practices (2, 2, and 1%, respectively).(9)

In the present work, the mean percentage of total agreement in physicians in the private hospitals in Hail city (group 3) was 77.25%.. 89.4% of those physicians studied ethics before (table III). 100% thought that health practitioner must comply with the ethics of his profession, dealing with colleagues ethically has positive effect and relationship between doctor and his patient depends mainly on confidentiality (questions 2, 4 and 8). Also, more than 90% thought that ethics of the health practitioner has positive effect on his patients, that it is necessary to take the patient's consent before any action (questions 3 and 19). On the other hand, the least agreements were about finding any health practitioner that behaved unethically, exposure to any problem or a condition that forced them to behave unethically, medical ethics could be subjected to changes,

Medical Ethics rules can vary according to countries, the presence of specialized department that set the ethical rules in their hospital and facing any difficulties in maintaining medical ethical values * questions 5, 13, 16, 17, 20 and 22). Alkabba et al (2012)(9) in KSA, reported that The major 10 ethical issues, as perceived by the participants in order of their importance, were: (1) Patients' Rights, (2) Equity of resources, (3) Confidentiality of the patients, (4) Patient Safety, (5) Conflict of Interests, (6) Ethics of privatization, (7) Informed Consent, (8) Dealing with the opposite sex, (9) Beginning and end of life, and (10) Healthcare team ethics.(9).

CONCLUSION

The medical ethics in Hail was highly applied. The third-year ethics course should be maintained, as the students found it appealing, interesting and relevant. Continuous medical education of ethics is essential for health care practitioners. They should be up to date to follow the Islamic medical ethics. Teaching applied ethics is more important than theory and, possibly resulting in a change of behaviour. Topics that are applicable to future practice should be given higher priority, especially if they are not discussed in other courses. Topics identified as priorities by experts in health care should be considered.

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